



City Administrator's Report

April 2009

Dear Reader,

Each month, this report from the City Administrator's Office provides a brief summary and update of major activities, events, projects, and programs that impact the Santa Barbara community. Feel free to send me your comments and suggestions.

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Key Meetings

City Council Meetings

Tuesdays, April 14th, 21st, and 28th. City Hall Council Chambers, 735 Anacapa Street, 2 p.m.

City Council Public Hearings on Recommended Operating and Capital Budget for Fiscal Year 2010

All meetings will be held in City Hall's Council Chambers, 735 Anacapa Street:

Thursday, April 23rd, 2 to 5 p.m.
Monday, May 4th, 6 to 9 p.m.
Tuesday, May 5th, 2 p.m.
Wednesday, May 6th, 9 to Noon
Tuesday, May 26th, 6 to 9 p.m.
Monday, June 1st, 3 to 6 p.m.
Tuesday, June 2nd, 9:30 a.m. to Noon

Community Events

39th Earth Day Celebration

Sunday, April 19th, 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. at Alameda Park. Come and learn how you can do your part to help Santa Barbara become a more sustainable community.

8th Annual Sea Festival

Saturday and Sunday April 25th and 26th from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Santa Barbara Maritime Museum. For more information, call 962-8404, extension 109.

Annual Harbor Nautical Swap Meet

Saturday, May 16th, 8 a.m. to noon at the Marina 3 parking lot. This free event is a great chance to look for boat, kayak, surfing gear, diving equipment, anchors, tackle, tools, and more.

Flags on State Street

Santa Barbara Rape Crisis Center

April 10th to 20th

Girls, Inc

April 20th to May 1st

Cinco de Mayo

May 1st to 6th

City Administrator's Office

City Set to Release Recommended Budget. In light of recent declines in sales tax and transient occupancy tax (TOT) revenue, the City of Santa Barbara now faces an estimated \$10.7 million funding shortfall in the Fiscal Year 2010 General Fund budget. This represents approximately 10% of the General Fund operating budget. The proposed budget strategy involves the following measures: 1) department budget adjustments; 2) increases in various fees and charges; 3) citywide labor measures such as a mandatory furlough; 4) structural budget changes; and 5) delays to capital improvements.

On April 21st, the City Administrator will present the Recommended Fiscal Year 2010 Budget to City Council and initiate public review of the budget. On that date, the Recommended Budget will be available at the City Clerk's Office and on the City's website at: www.SantaBarbaraCA.gov.

During April and May, each department budget will be presented with an overview of revenues, expenses, budget balancing strategy, service impacts, and proposed workplan for the upcoming year. The tentative schedule is listed below. All meetings will be held in the Council Chambers in City Hall. The City Council will adopt a budget by June 30, 2009.

Date	Time	Department Budget Presentations
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Tuesday, April 21 st	2:00 - 4:00 p.m.	Overview of Recommended Budget
Thursday, April 23 rd	2:00 - 5:00 p.m.	Mayor and Council's Office City Administrator's Office Administrative Services Department City Attorney's Office Community Development Department Redevelopment Agency
Monday, May 4 th	6:00 to 9:00 p.m.	Library Department Parks and Recreation Department
Tuesday, May 5 th	2:00 – 5:00 p.m.	Capital Program Budget
Wednesday, May 6 th	9:00 a.m. to Noon	Public Works Department
Tuesday, May 26 th	6:00 to 9:00 p.m.	Fire Department Police Department
Monday, June 1 st	3:00 to 6:00 p.m.	Airport Department Waterfront Department Finance Department and Environmental Services Non-Departmental

Inside Santa Barbara on City TV 18. *Inside Santa Barbara* is the City's only news magazine show. The award-winning, half-hour show covers important City issues, projects, and events. This month's episode of *Inside Santa Barbara* includes: an update of the Santa Barbara Airport's Airline Terminal Project, the completion of the City's largest solar projects, the Santa Barbara Art Alliance's Youth Mural Project, the Downtown Parking Committee Advisory Group, the City's Electronic Waste collection events, and the Literacy Gala. The show airs on Mondays at 8 p.m. and 8:30 p.m., 5 and 5:30 p.m., Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m., Saturdays at 9 and 9:30 p.m., and Sundays at 10:30 p.m. and 11 p.m. You can also watch the show online at www.citytv18.com/inside.

Earth Day Celebration April 19th. The 39th Annual Earth Day Festival will be held at Alameda Park on Sunday, April 19th from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. The event is focused on becoming a more sustainable community and features exhibitor booths, live music, and a children's activity area. City Staff from several divisions will be participating in Earth Day and will provide residents information on how they can save money and make a difference in the community. City staff will present will throughout the day on topics from water and energy conservation, moving around town, waste prevention, creek restoration and watershed pollution prevention.

Administrative Services Department

Annual Workshop for City Advisory Groups. The City's annual workshop for members of City Advisory Groups has been scheduled for Wednesday, April 22nd, at 4:30 p.m. at the Faulkner Gallery, located in the Central Library at 40 East Anapamu Street. Invitations will be sent to City Advisory Group members, City staff liaisons, and volunteers on various City advisory committees. Attendance at the workshop is highly recommended and will include

presentations from City Administrator on the City's budget and by the City Attorney on the Brown Act and Robert's Rules of Order.

Airport Department

Airline Terminal Project Takes Flight. On March 24th, the City Council approved construction contracts with Lash Construction (\$3.8 million) for temporary facilities and site preparation and EMMA Corporation (\$36.3 million) for a new terminal, a wider and longer frontage road, refurbishment of the existing terminal, and a reconfigured short-term parking lot. Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) goals will be incorporated into the project to the greatest extent feasible. The new 60,000 square foot terminal will retain the Spanish Colonial Revival architectural style of the historic terminal building. Construction will begin this spring with an expected completion date in 2011.

City to Issue Bonds for Airline Terminal Project. With the recent award of the contracts for construction of the new Airport terminal, the City is now ready to issue the bonds that will finance the project. Staff from the Finance, Airport, and City Attorney's Departments have been working with the City's bond team to prepare the bond deal for the market. The bond issue will total in excess of \$40 million and will provide the bulk of the funds for the project. Additional project funding will come from Federal Aviation Administration grants and Airport funds. Although these have been trying times in the bond market, the market for top quality tax-exempt municipal bonds has recovered nicely. Staff expects to sell the bonds for an average interest rate of between 5.5% and 6%. The bonds will be sold by Morgan Stanley. Morgan Stanley was selected for this project several years ago after a request for proposal process. If all goes as planned, the bonds will be sold sometime during the week of April 20th.

Passenger Traffic. Airline passenger traffic at the Santa Barbara Airport decreased in February 2009 as compared to February 2008. This February, the Airport served 52,119 passengers, a decrease of 15% when compared to the February 2008 passenger traffic count of 61,291 (the decrease is not adjusted for the 2008 leap year). The highest average passenger loads were aboard the United Express flights to Denver (86.4%), American Eagle flights to Dallas/Fort Worth (83.0%), and Horizon Air flights to Seattle (82.6%).

Community Development Department

Alternative Building Heights Charter Amendment. On March 24th, the City Council decided not to place an additional measure on the ballot to reduce building heights in commercial and industrial areas to 40 feet in El Pueblo Viejo and 45 feet in surrounding areas that currently allow 60 feet. This ballot measure was proposed in addition to the Save El Pueblo Viejo citizen initiative charter amendment measure that will be on the ballot this coming November. The Save El Pueblo Viejo charter amendment would amend the City Charter to reduce building heights to 40 feet in El Pueblo Viejo and 45 feet in zones that currently allow 60 feet with no exceptions. The decision on building heights is now up to the voters come this November. Voters will have the choice between the Save El Pueblo Viejo lower height limits or the current building heights of 60 feet.

Human Services Contracts. On March 24th, the City Council approved awarding \$1,766,289 in Human Services/Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds to support 49 social service programs and nine capital projects for Fiscal Year 2010. Each year, the City receives an annual allocation of federal CDBG funds to provide services to low and moderate income City residents. The City Council also set aside \$703,256 in funds for human services programs. The agencies funded provide services to more than 22,000 persons. For a complete list of the funded programs visit the City's website at www.SantaBarbaraCA.gov.

Planning Commission Update. The Commission will meet on April 16th to review three projects: 1) 2515 Medcliff (Coastal Development Permit for a new house); 2) 1109 Luneta (Coastal Development Permit for an addition to an existing house); and 3) 124 Los Aguajes (Coastal Development Permit and Tentative Subdivision Map for a three-unit condominium project). On May 8th, the Commission will hold a special meeting on the *Plan Santa Barbara* work program and Environmental Impact Report, and will review a project a 3339 Cliff Drive (Coastal Development Permit for an addition to an existing house).

Finance Department

City Sales Tax. Sales tax for the quarter ending December 31, 2008 was down 11.7%, including holiday sales. This was worse than the statewide average decline of 10.8%. Year-over-year, sales tax is down 6.1%; the adopted budget assumed a 0.3% decline.

City of Santa Barbara Sales Tax								
Quarter Ended	Fiscal Year 2006	Change from Prior Year	Fiscal Year 2007	Change from Prior Year	Fiscal Year 2008	Change from Prior Year	Fiscal Year 2009	Change from Prior Year
Sep 30	5,164,138	14.5%	5,234,636	1.4%	5,154,452	-1.5%	5,123,439	-0.6%
Dec 31	5,034,371	1.8%	5,109,958	1.5%	5,125,067	0.3%	4,527,849	-11.7%
Mar 31	4,367,052	0.0%	4,698,398	7.6%	4,636,818	-1.3%		
Jun 30	4,992,005	4.1%	5,240,527	5.0%	4,853,654	-7.4%		
Totals	\$19,557,566	5.0%	\$20,283,519	3.7%	\$19,769,991	-2.5%	\$9,651,288	-6.1%

Fire Department

Tea Fire Fundraiser for Hoffman Couple. The Santa Barbara community came together at Earl Warren Showgrounds on March 15th for a benefit concert for Tea Fire burn victims Lance and Carla Hoffman. The event, organized by the local fire, police, and other emergency response agencies, raised an estimated \$15,000 to help the couple who suffered serious burns during the Tea Fire.

Fire Sprinkler Ordinance. At the Ordinance Committee meeting on March 24th, Fire Prevention staff presented proposed changes to the Municipal Code specifying new fire

sprinkler requirements for both commercial and residential property. Statistics show that fire sprinklers save lives and property. Santa Barbara has experienced the effectiveness of residential sprinklers, with several activations in 2008, one of which saved the life of an unconscious fire victim. The fire sprinkler ordinance will be announced to the City Council on April 14th. If approved by City Council, the code changes will go into effect on July 1, 2009.

Fire Station One Remodel Update. According to the most recent construction schedule, the fire crews will be able to move back into their new living quarters on May 18th. The entire project, including the downstairs Emergency Operating Center, will be finished by the end of July.

Library Department

Central Library Consolidates. The Central Library has combined three public floors into two to reduce costs and to prepare for a new children's library in the future. The newspapers, magazines, DVDs, music CDs, audiobooks, and microfilm are now on the main level. The lower level has been closed to the public as of March 16th and will remain closed until it reopens in about two years as the new Children's Library. In the interim, the Police Department is making plans to relocate staff to the vacated space during their remodeling project.

Día de los Niños/Día de los Libros. On Saturday, April 25th, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., the Library and the Junior League of Santa Barbara will bring a special festival to the Central Public Library. The event will feature a variety of arts and crafts, storytelling, dancing groups, and other activities celebrating literacy and diversity. First 5 Santa Barbara County, which is an organization that supports the well-being of children prenatal to five-years old, has donated 100 books that will be given away at the event. The celebration is open to the public.

Parks and Recreation

Park and Recreation Commission Volunteer Recognition. On Wednesday, March 25th, the Park and Recreation Commission recognized volunteers for their contribution to neighborhoods and support of the department's Mobile Farmer's Market and Mobile Pantry Food Distribution Programs. In collaboration with the Santa Barbara Food Bank, the department's Community Centers have been operating the Mobile Farmer's Market and Mobile Food Pantry in the Westside, Lower Westside, and Eastside neighborhoods. These programs, which provide free food to low-income residents and seniors, are currently serving over 400 households and benefit over 1,600 family members weekly.

Department Wins Three Awards from California Parks and Recreation Society (CPRS). The Parks and Recreation Department received three awards from the California Parks and Recreation Society. The competition was between all Parks and Recreation departments in the district, which includes San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, and Ventura counties. The Department's marketing team was awarded "Best Media Communication Campaign" for the "New Year, New You—Resolution Solution" television campaign produced by City TV Channel 18. The Bohnett Park Expansion Project received the award for "Facility Design and Park Planning" for its creation of a green oasis and visually stimulating passive open space for Santa Barbara's densely populated Westside neighborhood. Dan Bifano,

distinguished long-time and well-known rosarian, was recognized as “Champion of the Community” for his outstanding volunteer contributions to the A.C. Postel Memorial Rose Garden.

Santa Barbara Youth Council Endorses Proposed County-wide Social Host Ordinance. On March 2nd, the Santa Barbara Youth Council endorsed the proposed County-wide Social Host Ordinance. The Youth Council supports the efforts to reduce underage access to alcohol in homes. The Alcohol and Drug Abuse (ADAP) Teen Coalition, the Fighting Back Public Policy Task Force, and other community groups worked with City Council to get a Social Host Ordinance adopted in the City of Santa Barbara last July. The proposed county-wide Social Host Ordinance would provide uniformity throughout the County of Santa Barbara and eliminate gaps in the laws. The proposed county-wide Social Host Ordinance is scheduled to go before the Board of Supervisors on Tuesday, April 21st. For more information, contact Robert Payan, ADAP Coordinator, at 897-2650.

Goats Used to Reduce Vegetation at Skofield Park. The Parks and Recreation Department, with the help of the Fire Department, has begun a pilot program that uses 200 contracted goats from *Brush Goats 4 Hire* to reduce vegetative fuels in seven acres of steep terrain at Skofield Park and prevent the potential spread of a wildfire. The goats are within a defined fenced area and dogs are guarding the area. The goat project is expected to last for a few months

Westside Community Center Replaces Playground. The new playground at the Westside Community Center on 423 West Victoria Street opened on Saturday, April 11th. The playground has new slides, swings, and rubberized fall surfacing.

Police Department

Officer's Observations Lead to Burglary Arrest. On March 29th, officers responded to the women's clothing store *Gossip* located at 629 State Street, for a call of a burglary investigation. Surveillance video showed two males and a female inside the store stealing items. One of the subjects in the video was described as a white male adult with a mohawk haircut. Later that day, an officer saw a subject matching the description and identified the suspect as 19-year old Zachary Daniels. Officers searched his backpack and found several stolen items from the store. Daniels was taken into custody. Officers then spoke with a 17-year old female who accompanied Daniels. A records check of the 17-year old revealed that she was a run-a-way from Santa Cruz and had a warrant for her arrest for violation of probation. Daniels was booked into Santa Barbara County Jail for Burglary. The 17-year old female was booked into Santa Barbara County Juvenile Hall for the warrant.

Avoid the Twelve DUI Checkpoint. On March 17th, Santa Barbara Police Department officers participated in a multi-agency Avoid the Twelve DUI Checkpoint at 400 Chapala Street. A total of 618 vehicles passed through the checkpoint. Officers arrested ten drivers for DUI, two for Unlicensed Driver, and one for Resisting/Delaying an Officer. Other agencies involved in the checkpoint were Santa Barbara County Sheriff's Department, Lompoc Police Department, Guadalupe Police Department, Allan Hancock Police Department, and University California Santa Barbara Police Department.

Quick Patrol Response Leads to Arrest. On March 9th, at approximately 12:43 a.m., a witness called the Police Department to report a burglary in progress. The witness reported that the front glass door of the liquor store on the corner of De la Vina and Vernon Streets had been broken and that a male adult was leaving the area partially covering his head with his shirt. The alarm to the store was sounding, and the male was last seen running down Vernon Street and attempting to hide in some bushes. An officer was in the area and responded to the burglary call in approximately 85 seconds. He and an additional officer located the suspect, later identified as 21-year old Justin Vela. Vela was in possession of two Vodka bottles, which he had stolen from the liquor store. Vela was transported to Santa Barbara County Jail and booked for Burglary.

Public Works Department

Utility Rate Increases. New water, wastewater (sewer), and solid waste rates are proposed for the upcoming fiscal year, starting July 1, 2009. The new rates are designed to account for inflation and infrastructure maintenance. Customers are receiving courtesy notices of the increases in their bill statements. The City proposes to increase rates for water quantity charges and monthly service charges for all customers by 3.5%, wastewater rates for all customers by 4%, and solid waste collection by up to 1.2%. Residential solid waste service would continue to include up to 32 gallons of free collection for green waste and up to 95 gallons of free collection for mixed recycling.

City Streamlining Graywater Permitting Process. The Water Resources and Building and Safety Divisions have created “A Guide to Permitting a Single Family Graywater System” to help residents with the building and permitting process for a graywater system. A graywater system uses the drainage from bathroom sinks, showers, bathtubs, and washing machines for irrigation. Copies of the guide are available in the lobby at 630 Garden Street and online at: www.SantaBarbaraCA.gov/water. The website also has links to the State of California’s “Graywater Guide Book” and the California Plumbing Code for graywater systems.

Making the Final Connection: Carrillo Hill Construction. In June 2008, the first segment of construction was completed for the Carrillo Hill Sidewalk Improvement Project. The next segment of the pedestrian link includes connecting the sidewalks on the north side of Carrillo Street between Miramonte Drive and Chino Street and south of Island View Drive. Construction of this segment is scheduled to begin this month and last approximately three months. The completion of these sidewalk improvement projects provides a contiguous link from the Mesa to Downtown on the north side of Carrillo Street, which fulfills the City’s goals to increase pedestrian travel, improve pedestrian safety, and encourage public transit use by providing better access to bus stops.

Water Distribution Improvements. The City is installing seven magnetic flow meters at four reservoirs and three pump stations located throughout the City’s water distribution system. The meters will enable flows from each facility to be monitored and controlled remotely, enhancing both system control and trouble-shooting capabilities. The Magnetic Meter project is on budget and scheduled to be completed ahead of time.

Chain and Flight Project at Cater Water Treatment Plant. A project is currently underway at the Cater Water Treatment Plant to upgrade the two sedimentation basins. Upgrades to one basin are complete. Upgrades to one basin are complete. Installation of the new equipment requires taking down the entire basin, thus cutting Cater's water production in half. The second half of the project will be done this fall when water demand is lower.

Waterfront Department

Don't Feed the Birds Campaign. Often times, well-intended people visiting Stearns Wharf feed table scraps to seabirds. Feeding the birds makes them dependent on human food, moves them away from their normal diet, attracts pigeons which become a nuisance; and puts the birds/gulls in danger of being hooked on fishing lines on the wharf. Over the years, the Department has encouraged wharf restaurants to use tabletop signs to educate their patrons. The Waterfront Department continues to work with wharf tenants to further educate local fishermen and visitors about the issue. To discourage the practice, the "Don't Feed the Birds" campaign has been enhanced by placing permanent inlaid notices at all outdoor public tables, and affixing a sandblasted redwood sign to the take out window at the Santa Barbara Shellfish Company.

8th Annual Sea Festival Features Tall Ship. Santa Barbara's rich maritime history comes to life during the Santa Barbara Maritime Museum's (SBMM) 8th Annual Sea Festival on Saturday and Sunday, April 25th and 26th from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. SBMM will highlight its interactive science program, host the visiting tall ship Bill of Rights, and offer exciting demonstrations and activities that celebrate our local maritime history. For more information, call SBMM at 962-8404 extension 109.

Save the Date: Harbor Nautical Swap Meet. The Annual Harbor Nautical Swap Meet will be held from 8 a.m. to noon on Saturday, May 16th, in the Marina 3 parking lot. The event features 75 vendors, refreshments, and hidden treasures. The four-hour swap meet is a prime place to look for boat, kayak, surfing gear, diving equipment, anchors, tackle, tools, and more. The free event is hosted by the Waterfront Department in conjunction with the Santa Barbara Harbor Merchants Association.